

**WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**HST 7700: Research in Local History**  
**Student Oral History Interviews, October 25, 2017**  
**Interview with Joseph Weldinger**

**Interview Information**

Interview date: October 25, 2017

Interviewer: Emily Reth (ER)

Interviewee: Joseph Weldinger (JW)

**Interview Transcript**

Emily Reth (ER): Um, so, my name is Emily Reth, and we're here in Wright State's campus in the Dunbar Library on the fourth floor. And we're interviewing Wright State students to talk about what a normal day in their life is like. So, you'd mentioned that you have your one class. What class do you have, Joseph?

Joseph Weldinger (JW): I have Intro to Archives and Manuscripts on Wednesdays.

ER: Gotcha, gotcha, and I'm sorry. For the audience, can you also tell us your full name and what year you are, what program you're in?

JW: My name is Joseph Weldinger. I'm a first-year Public History grad student.

ER: Fantastic. So, how did you find Wright State for your graduate level of education?

JW: Well, I graduated here for undergrad, and I just stayed here for graduate school.

ER: Gotcha, what was your undergrad in?

JW: Liberal Studies.

ER: Liberal Studies. So, what brought you to the Public History Program? What do you want to do after graduation, Joseph?

JW: Well, I was originally getting a degree in Anthropology—

ER: Oh, cool.

JW: —concentrating in Archaeology. But I have some health problems, and so that's not a viable career pursuit now. So I...it seems that Public History might be a good option to parley that into, so to speak.

ER: Yeah, definitely. Definitely. So, what class do you have this evening?

JW: It was Intro to Archives and Manuscripts.

ER: Fantastic. So, who's the professor for that one?

JW: It's... The instructor is Chris Wydman.

ER: Chris Wydman. So, with your time here at Wright State, what is a typical day for you? Do you normally have a couple of classes per semester? Just one? Do you normally stay on campus a little bit after your classes?

JW: Well, as an undergrad student, I had... I usually did about 18 credit hours—

ER: Oh, wow.

JW: —under the semester system, or 15 back in the quarter system.

ER: Okay.

JW: Back in the good old days, as I call them. [both laugh] When you could...you actually got to take more classes.

ER: Right, right.

JW: But, uh... It was pretty much here all day, five days a week, from like 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. usually—

ER: Gotcha.

JW: —with some time in between classes, sometimes. But, as a grad student, so far, I've just had one class per day, three or four days a week.

ER: Fantastic. So, what did you do this morning before you got on campus?

JW: I worked on my assignment that was due today. [both laugh] As usual!

ER: No shame! [both laugh] So, what was that assignment? Can you tell us a little more about that?

JW: We had to write a topic proposal for a research paper.

ER: Oh, gotcha. What's your topic?

JW: Sound and music archives.

ER: Oh cool. So, after you graduate from Wright State, is that something that you'd want to go into, or how did you find that topic?

JW: The topic was on a list provided to us. This is a required course for the degree, and I'm probably going to go into museum collections and curation, rather than archives.

ER: Oh, okay, gotcha.

JW: But I haven't decided for sure yet.

ER: Wherever the job leads you, right?

JW: Kind of.

ER: So, one last question for you, Joseph. So, what did you have for breakfast this morning?

JW: I had eggs, potatoes, tomatoes, onions, and tea.

ER: Ooh, that sounds fantastic. Definitely a good fall sort of breakfast. Thank you so much, Joseph, for telling us about your day and about Wright State.

JW: Alright, thank you.